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CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT
CD NO.

COUNTRY Bulgaria

SUBJECT Sociological - Labor, absenteeism

DATE OF INFORMATION 1952

HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspapers

DATE DIST. 14 Apr 1952

WHERE PUBLISHED Sofia

NO. OF PAGES 3

DATE PUBLISHED 4, 5 Jan 1952

LANGUAGE Bulgarian

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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ABSENTEEISM HURTS BULGARIAN OUTPUT

CHARGE UNWARRANTED ABSENTEEISM -- Sofia, Otechestven Front, 5 Jan 52

The Bulgarian people greeted 1952 with the battle slogan: "Let us fulfill the Five-Year Plan in 4 years." For the realization of this appeal, a highly conscientious labor discipline must be maintained.

Following an outmoded tradition of the past, certain religious holidays in January are used as a pretext by some unconscientious workers for unwarranted absence from work. This harmful phenomenon violates production timetables set by the plan, obstructs the fulfillment of the monthly plan, increases production costs, and inflicts heavy losses on the national economy.

In the Maritsa Mining Basin, the number of workers who were unwarrantedly absent from work in January 1951 was 5.86 percent of the total number of employed workers. This resulted in a loss of 5.88 percent of the total planned production.

In the "Georgi Dimitrov" Mines, the percentage of absenteeism was 6.97 percent, which resulted in a loss of 6.99 percent of the total production.

In the textile industry in January 1951, unwarranted absences from work amounting to 25,388 workdays have been registered. This caused a loss to the national economy of 15 million leva; in the machine-building industry, absenteeism amounted to 2,494 workdays, and in the metal-working industry, 2,994 workdays. All this means a reduction in the output of coal, machinery, textiles, and other goods needed by the Bulgarian working people, by domestic industry, and by Bulgarian agriculture.

These examples show clearly what great losses are inflicted on the Bulgarian national economy by unwarranted absence of workers. An explanatory and persuasive struggle must be waged against violations of labor discipline among the working people. Each worker in an enterprise must realize that unwarranted absences from work disorganize production, disturb its smooth operation, and

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inevitably lead to last minute speed-ups to catch up with production plans. The new attitude toward labor in Bulgaria, which is gaining ground and which considers labor to be an expression of honor, manhood, and heroism on the part of every citizen, requires high and conscientious labor discipline at Bulgarian socialist enterprises.

An expression of this attitude is the new socialist Labor Code, which wipes out the old outmoded labor laws. It gives trade unions, trade union organizations, enterprises, and offices the opportunity to exercise constant and effective control for its proper and correct enforcement. The Labor Code does not permit any unwarranted or arbitrary absence from work, and such unjustifiable action on the part of unconscientious workers is justly punished.

Before the national conference of Stakhanovites and shock workers in industry, transportation, and construction, Vulko Chervenkov said the following: "Labor and state discipline must constantly be developed and strengthened."

At present, following the example of Soviet Stakhanovites, there is an extensive movement of socialist competition for increasing labor productivity and for reducing production costs throughout the country. The workers of the "Rune" Wool-Textiles Combine are praised for implementing the method of the Soviet Stakhanovites, Mariya Levchenko and Grigoriy Mukhanov, in reducing the cost of each production process. When an incessant struggle is being waged for the realization of economies, for high-grade production, and for a greater variety of goods, each unwarranted absence from the job is a desertion from the labor front.

The labor union organizations at enterprises, the Fatherland Front, and other public and political organizations must start a vigorous struggle against any and every unwarranted absence from work. The patriotic appeal for the fulfillment of the Five-Year Plan in 4 years will inspire and mobilize the Bulgarian working people to exceed the 1952 plan.

ABSENTEEISM HURTS PLAN -- Sofia, Vecherni Novini, 4 Jan 52

The postholiday letdown of some workers, especially during the first weeks of the year, is an obstacle to the regular fulfillment of production plans and causes considerable damage to the national economy. It leads to unwarranted absences from work, resulting from the inadequate sense of responsibility of some men and women workers whose observance of labor discipline is not at the required level.

Absence and tardiness obstruct Bulgarian planning for socialist construction. The lagging behind of a single brigade unfavorably affects the fulfillment of the production plan of an entire enterprise. The nonfulfillment of the plan in a spinning mill, for example, has an adverse effect on the work of a number of weaving mills, which, because of a lack of materials, cannot fulfill their pledges to the party, to the government, and personally to Vulko Chervenkov.

The workers at enterprises in the capital and throughout the country realize that by eliminating the postholiday work letdowns during January and other months of the year, the fulfillment of the 1952 plan and the fulfillment of the first Dimitrov Five-Year Plan in 4 years will be accomplished.

The measures taken at the "Bulgariya" Factory at Sofia and the appeal against absenteeism made by the workers at the "G. Dimitrov" State Industrial Enterprise at Troyan are signs of increasing labor discipline among the workers.

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The struggle against unwarranted absence from work and its definite elimination is a question of honor for every Bulgarian worker.

Men and women workers of Sofia, whose example is followed by all the Bulgarian working people, must lead this struggle.

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